

Apparatus for controlling lean-burn engine

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Abstract

An apparatus for controlling a motor vehicle equipped with a lean-burn engine and an electric motor coupled to an output shaft of the lean-burn engine has an engine controller, a combustion-pressure variation detector, and a motor controller. The engine controller controls the lean-burn engine to operate in a lean range of air-fuel ratios. The combustion-pressure variation detector detects a variation in a combustion pressure of the lean-burn engine controlled by the engine controller. The motor controller controls the electric motor to apply a force to the output shaft of the lean-burn engine for suppressing a variation caused in a torque produced by the lean-burn engine based on the variation in the combustion pressure as detected by the combustion-pressure variation detector means if the variation in the combustion pressure is in excess of a predetermined value.

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